Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"May I know why saloon cars are insisted upon in the case of taxis when private owners are allowed to have any kind of cars?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The reason why saloon cars are insisted upon in the case of taxis to be newly registered is this: From the point of view of the passengers it is much more convenient than the others. Moreover, most of the manufacturers are now adopting the saloon as the standard and it has also been found by experience that it is much easier to keep it clean and tidy. It is to suit the convenience and comfort of the passengers that saloon cars are insisted upon."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I know what is the test for licensing: is it the sound mechanical condition of the car or is it the number of years for which the car has run?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The sound mechanical condition of the car."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Then why do they not grant licences to cars more than five years old?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The answer says, 'No.' That means that licences are not refused to cars simply because they are more than five years old."

Criminal Tribes

Application of the Criminal Tribes Act to the Padayachis of South Arcot.

* 308 *Q.*—Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the circumstances under which G.O. No. 2707 L., dated 10th December 1934, bringing under purview of the Criminal Tribes Act, the Padayachis (Vanniyakula Kshatriyas) of the district of South Arcot was issued;

(*b*) whether any recommendation was made by the District Magistrate of South Arcot to issue the order in question;

(*c*) whether before issuing the Government Order any opportunity was given to the Padayachis (Vanniyakula Kshatriyas) to state their objections, and whether the Government will be pleased to place the entire correspondence on the table of this House; and

(*d*) whether any representations have been made to the Government to rescind the Government Order and what action has been taken on them?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clauses (*a*), (*c*) and (*d*) of question No. 166.

(*c*) No objections were invited and there was no correspondence on the recommendations.

[30th October 1935

Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—"There was a statement by Government that the name of the community would be changed. May I ask the Hon. the Home Member whether the Government is doing anything in that direction?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The matter is still under consideration."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Is it not a fact that the District Magistrate has recommended that the order in question should be cancelled or modified?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I do not think I can communicate to this House the report of the District Magistrate to the Government which is of a confidential nature."

Depressed Classes

Persons competent to issue poverty certificates for fee remissions and scholarships.

* 309 *Q.*—Rao Sahib C. JAYARAM NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any specific order that all poverty certificates for fee remissions and scholarships to depressed and backward classes should be issued by Government officials only of the rank of District Labour Officers, Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars, Magistrates and not by Honorary Magistrates;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that poverty certificates issued by Honorary Magistrates are accepted by the Educational department;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that poverty certificates issued by Honorary Magistrates are rejected by the Labour department; and

(*d*) whether it is a fact that a recent Government Order requiring poverty certificates to be signed by Government officials was suspended on the agitation of the minority communities on account of the difficulty that will be experienced in obtaining such certificates from Government officials and whether such suspension is still in force?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The Government have no information to the contrary. Under the Madras Educational Rules poverty certificates signed by Honorary Magistrates should be accepted.

(*c*) The Government have called for a report.

(*d*) No Government Order has recently been issued requiring these poverty certificates to be signed by Government officials only.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"In answer to clause (*c*) the Government say they have called for a report. This answer was given about ten weeks ago. May I ask whether the Government have since received the report?"